

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic apparatus comprising:

operation inputting means for designating one of a plurality of functions, including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding;

function executing means for executing at least one of the plurality of functions, ~~including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding,~~ designated by the ~~operating input~~ operation inputting means;

measuring means for measuring the time during which each of ~~[[said]]~~ the functions has been executed ~~by said function executing means;~~

computing means for computing an amount of charge ~~based on~~ by multiplying the execution time of each of the plurality of functions by a weighing factor that is unique to each of the plurality of functions ~~measured by said measuring means regarding each of said functions,~~ wherein a time unit charge decreases as the execution time increases and the time unit charge becomes zero when the execution time reaches a predetermined time value; and

receiving means for receiving a first key to disable at least one of the plurality of functions, ~~including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding,~~ if the amount of charge is not settled, and a second key to enable at least one of the plurality of

functions, ~~including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding~~, if the amount of charge is settled.

2. - 4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing means for storing execution times for each of ~~[[said]]~~ the functions measured by ~~[[said]]~~ the measuring means; and

transmitting means for transmitting ~~[[said]]~~ the execution times from ~~[[said]]~~ the storing means to an external entity for settlement of charges.

6. (Currently Amended) An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing means for storing a chargeable time representing the amount of charge computed by ~~[[said]]~~ the computing means; and

transmitting means for transmitting ~~[[said]]~~ the chargeable time from ~~[[said]]~~ the storing means to an external entity for settlement of charges.

7. (Currently Amended) An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing means for storing a usable time of ~~[[said]]~~ the apparatus; and

settling means for subtracting a chargeable time₁ representing the amount of charge computed by ~~[[said]]~~ the computing means, from ~~[[said]]~~ the usable time ~~stored in said storing means~~.

8. - 29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A charge processing device comprising:

a first receiving means for receiving information about which of a plurality of functions, including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding, provided by an apparatus is being executed;

used time measuring means which, based on a result of the reception by ~~[[said]]~~ the receiving means, measures as a used time the time during which each of the plurality of functions, ~~including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding~~, has been executed;

chargeable time computing means for computing a chargeable time ~~based on by multiplying the used time of each of the plurality of functions by a weighing factor that is unique to each of the plurality of functions measured by said used time measuring means regarding each of said functions~~, wherein a time unit charge decreases as the used time increases and the time unit charge becomes zero when the used time reaches a predetermined time value;

storing means for storing chargeable time information resulting from the computing by ~~[[said]]~~ the chargeable time computing means; and

a second receiving means for receiving a first key to disable at least one of the plurality of functions, ~~including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding,~~ if the amount of charge is not settled, and a second key to enable at least one of the plurality of functions, ~~including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding,~~ if the amount of charge is settled.

31. (Currently Amended) A charge processing device according to claim 30, further comprising transmitting means for transmitting ~~[[said]]~~ the chargeable time information from ~~[[said]]~~ the storing means to an external entity for settlement of charges.

32. (Currently Amended) A storage medium which stores a program capable of controlling a computer, ~~[[said]]~~ the program comprising the steps of:

measuring an execution time of each of a plurality of functions, including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding, provided by an electronic apparatus, each function having been input for execution;

computing an amount of charge ~~based on~~ by multiplying the measured execution time regarding each of ~~[[said]]~~ the plurality of functions, ~~including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding,~~ by a weighing factor that is unique to each of the plurality of functions, wherein a time unit charge decreases as the measured execution time increases and the time unit charge becomes zero when the measured execution time reaches a predetermined time value;

receiving a first key to disable at least one of the plurality of functions, ~~including~~
~~playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding~~, if the amount of charge is not
settled, and a second key to enable at least one of the plurality of functions, ~~including~~
~~playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding~~, if the amount of charge is settled.

33. (Currently Amended) A storage medium which stores a program according to
claim 32, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the program further comprises the step of transmitting ~~[[said]]~~
the chargeable amount to an external entity for settlement of charges.

34. - 43. (Canceled)